



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/698,039  
Filing Date: October 30, 2003  
Applicant: Hidenori Usuda  
Group Art Unit: 2853  
Examiner: Geoffrey S. Mruk  
Title: DROPLET DISCHARGING APPARATUS AND METHOD  
Attorney Docket: 9319S-000574

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Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT/REPLY**

Sir:

In conjunction with Applicant's Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and in response to the Final Office Action mailed August 22, 2006, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.